

(c) Whether any of the religious minorities in these areas had ever represented to the Government against the continuance of the common Civil Code;

(d) Whether the Government propose to introduce uniform Civil Code for all citizens;

(e) If so, the details thereof, and

(f) If not; the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANG RAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

The common civil code is in operation in the State of Goa only. The state is governed by the Portuguese civil code (Codigo Civil Portuguese).

(c). No representation from any of the religious minorities from the state has been received against the continuance of the code.

(d) and (f). No proposal for the introduction of Uniform Civil Code is under consideration of the Government. Introduction of Uniform Civil Code for all citizens will necessarily involve changes in the personal laws of minority communities. The consistent policy of the Government has been not to interfere on its own in the personal laws of the minority communities unless initiative for the change comes from such communities.

Exports to New Trading Blocks in Eastern Europe

4864. SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have chalked out a strategy of exports to new trading blocks in eastern Europe;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the guidelines issued to exporters in this regard; and

(c) the items identified for exports to these countries ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). The Government is taking a number of steps to ensure that a new dynamism is imparted to our trade with the countries in eastern Europe. These steps include : (a) promotion of direct contacts at the commercial enterprise level (b) establishing direct contacts with new republics of the commonwealth of independent states and (c) greater emphasis is on new forms of economic cooperation like joint ventures.

(c) The items identified for exports to these countries include agricultural products, minerals and ores, chemicals and allied products, leather and leather manufactures, engineering goods etc.

Export of Natural Rubber

4865. SHRI A. CHARLES : Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether orders have been received for export of natural rubber to countries like Malaysia;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) the quantity of natural rubber exported during 1991 - 92 and the quantity for which orders have been received; and

(d) the quantity of natural rubber proposed to be exported during 1992 - 93 ?